

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF PRIVATE OCCUPATIONAL SCHOOLS**

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
February 6, 2006, 2:30-3:15 p.m.**

The Colorado Private Occupational Schools Board convened via a telephone conference.

Board Members Present:

Robert Martin, Chair Tom Twardowski, Vice Chair Jerry Sirbu Gary Upton

Board Members Absent:

JJ Ament Lisa Noll Ronnie O'Dwyer

Division Staff Present:

Jim Parker, Director Renee Belisle Valorie Briggs Voni Oerman Carol Vote

Other: Matt Gianneschi, CCHE

Mr. Parker provided a brief background of the purpose of the special meeting to discuss Instructor Credentialing. Mr. Parker explained that the Colorado Community College System and Office of Credential Technology & Education (CTE), has advised the division of their intention to terminate credentialing services. To date, no written notice or formal cancellation of the contract for services regarding private instructor credentials has been received by DPOS.

Dr. Gianneschi noted he had spoken with Kristine Corash, Director of Strategic Planning for the Community College System (CCCS) who advised that CTE would be terminating credentialing services, possibly as early as March 1, 2006. Dr. Gianneschi explained that CCCS would consider continuing to process private school credentials through the fiscal year, with the condition of payment. Dr. Gianneschi explained by asking CCCS/CTE to continue do credentials through June 30, 2006, in essence the Division is buying time and the DPOS budget has some flexibility to pay (perhaps \$15,000), but does need to explore other options and resources for credentialing of instructors.

Mr. Parker asked the members to consider the following options in determining a proper course of action to proceed with in ensuring instructor qualifications.

- Contract with another entity to perform private instructor credentialing
- Bring function in-house and have division staff review and approve instructor credentials
- Require school's to verify their own instructors' qualifications according to DPOS Rule

Mr. Parker reminded the Board, in considering the options, that the Board has broad discretion in determining how to handle instructor credentials and verify instructors' qualifications, as set forth in the powers and the duties of the board.

Mr. Twardowski stated he supports "Self Regulation". Dr. Gianneschi noted this option is similar to how CCHE operates with the public and private institutions. CCHE is not responsible for the auditing of instructor credentials. Mr. Martin noted the accreditation requirements are more stringent than DPOS. After discussing some of the "down sides" that included short and long-term issues, Board member's concurred self-regulation was the preferred option and directed the Director to conduct research in the area of self-regulation and report back to the Board.

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Mr. Parker noted neither CCCS nor Division staff is to communicate any change in procedure at this time. The credentialing of private occupational school instructors is still the responsibility of CTE.

Having no further business to discuss regarding private instructor credentials, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.